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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, July 14, 2014, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 2014

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

In these most important days and debates here in the people's House, we beg You to send Your spirit of wisdom as the Members struggle to do the work that has been entrusted to them. Inspire them to work together with charity, and join their efforts to accomplish what our Nation needs to live into a prosperous and secure future.

Please keep all the Members of this Congress, and all who work for the people's House, in good health, that they might faithfully fulfill the great responsibility given them by the people of this great Nation.

Bless us this day and every day. May all that is done here be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ENYART) come for-

ward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ENYART led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ACTING VA SECRETARY VISITS HOSPITALS

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this week, Acting VA Secretary Sloan Gibson visited the William Jennings Bryan Dorn VA Hospital in Columbia, South Carolina. Then he toured the Charlie Norwood VA Hospital in Augusta, Georgia. VA Chairman JEFF MILLER visited both hospitals in January, promoting the expedited health care for our veterans.

The lack of treatment our veterans are receiving from the VA is inexcusable. Sadly, we have learned about lack of care at VA facilities across the country leading to death, cancer, and other progressive illnesses—a preview of ObamaCare chaos. This has been a failure by the President, who was alerted by his transition team in 2009 that there was mismanagement.

Finally, now, as the former president and CEO of the United Services Organization, USO, Acting Secretary Sloan Gibson has the experience to restore accountability with our veterans. Moving forward, I have faith that the professional staffs at Dorn and Charlie Norwood VA hospitals will ensure those who fought for our freedom receive the health care services they deserve.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th—as the President should take action for victory—in the global war on terrorism.

DEMAND ACTION ON H.R. 4594

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I just shared with the Speaker that the battle to save the lives of Afghans who helped Americans as guides and interpreters has been a roller coaster, documented again Wednesday night in a gripping film, "The Interpreters," by VICE News, about the American failure to protect those who helped us.

The program was brought back to life during the difficult government shutdown period by a bipartisan effort. Now that same bipartisan spirit is needed again, because only a few hundred visas remain with 6,000 people in the pipeline, with thousands more who must not be left to the tender mercies of the Taliban seeking revenge to torture and kill them.

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

